

the President and Deputy Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

For the last several months, Hart has been a senior transition staffer, serving as Special Assistant to then-transition director Warren Christopher and to Thomas “Mack” McLarty following his appointment as Chief of Staff. Hart had been deputy director of the Clinton/Gore Transition Planning Foundation, the pre-transition organization that was formed during the general election campaign. During the 1992 primary campaign, Hart played a vital role as director of delegate operations. Previously, he had been an attorney in Washington, DC, and a judicial clerk for the Honorable James T. Turner of the U.S. Claims Court.

Appointment of Arthur Jones and Lorraine Voles as Deputy White House Press Secretaries

January 25, 1993

The President today appointed two veteran press secretaries, Arthur Jones and Lorraine Voles, to serve as Deputy White House Press Secretaries.

Voles served as deputy traveling press secretary for the Clinton/Gore campaign and has been press secretary to Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa since 1989. Prior to that she was a project director with the Natural Resources Defense Council and was national deputy press secretary for the Dukakis/Bentsen campaign. She will begin work at the White House on Monday, February 1.

Jones has been press secretary to Boston Mayor Ray Flynn since 1987. Prior to that he served as deputy press secretary to former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis and was a reporter for the Boston Globe. He begins work on Monday, February 8.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting with Congressional Leaders

January 26, 1993

Q. Mr. President, are you going to have a policy statement on gays in the military by the end of the week?

The President. I’m going to talk to the leadership of Congress about our legislative agenda.

Q. How do you feel your meeting with the Joint Chiefs went yesterday, Mr. President?

The President. It was a very good meeting. I was very impressed by them. The country’s well served.

NOTE: The President spoke at 9:38 a.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House.

Nomination of Thomas R. Pickering To Be United States Ambassador to Russia

January 26, 1993

President Clinton announced today that he intends to nominate Thomas R. Pickering as Ambassador of the United States of America to the Russian Federation. Ambassador Pickering is a career Foreign Service officer who holds the personal rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the U.S. Foreign Service. He has served his country with distinction in a series of senior positions, most recently as Ambassador to India.

In making this announcement, President Clinton said, “It is essential that we continue to expand and develop our relationship with Russia. I want to do everything I can to support democratic and economic reform there and want an experienced and dedicated Ambassador to represent our Nation in Moscow. Ambassador Pickering has demonstrated throughout his career that he has the ability and wisdom to carry out this important assignment. I have full confidence in him.”

NOTE: A biography of Ambassador Pickering was attached to the press release.

Nomination of Jim King To Be Director of the Office of Personnel Management

January 26, 1993

President Clinton today announced that he intends to nominate Jim King as Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

"Jim King will bring invaluable expertise, knowledge, and enthusiasm to the Office of Personnel Management," said President Clinton.

Mr. King currently serves as chief of staff for U.S. Senator John Kerry. He previously served as senior vice president for government and community affairs at Northeastern University and Special Assistant to the President in the Office of Presidential Personnel during the Carter administration. Other experience includes chairman of the board of the Massachusetts Aeronautics Commission; associate vice president, State and community affairs, at Harvard University; and Chairman of the Board and member of the National Transportation and Safety Board.

The Office of Personnel Management administers a merit system for Federal employment that includes recruiting, examining, training, and promoting people on the basis of their knowledge and skills, regardless of race, religion, sex, political influence, or other nonmerit factors. "I am deeply honored to accept this challenging role of ensuring that the Federal Government has the best, brightest, and most diversified work force we possibly can," said King. The Office's role is to ensure that the Federal Government provides an array of personnel services to applicants and employees.

Mr. King received his bachelor of arts at the American International College and is a fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government Institute of Politics.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan

January 28, 1993

Q. Mr. President, what's the principle you're fighting for in sticking with your plan to ban gays in the military? What's the principle that you believe that makes you want to stick with that?

The President. I came here to talk about the economy today with Mr. Greenspan. If he wants to express his opinion on that subject, I'll be glad to hear it. *[Laughter]* Most people with whom I talk, except you folks, never discuss that. We have other things we're trying to deal with.

Q. Sir, there was good news about the economy—*[inaudible]*

The President. I think that there's a lot of response to the efforts we're making now, but there's also a lot of troubling news about lost jobs. And we've got a lot of work to do, a lot of work to do.

NOTE: The exchange began at 9:37 a.m. in the Oval Office at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Remarks Honoring the School Principal of the Year and an Exchange With Reporters

January 28, 1993

The President. This is Janie R. Hill Hatton from Milwaukee, and she is the School Principal of the Year. You can tell she's from Wisconsin because Senator Kohl is here, but I have to tell you she also grew up in my hometown of Hot Springs, Arkansas. We grew up in the same town. She's younger than I am. *[Laughter]*

That's her husband, Isaac, who also comes from Arkansas. And these other three gentlemen are with the National Association of School Principals.

Mrs. Hatton. And MetLife.